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WHEN you want to put your busi-

ness before the public, there is no me-

dium better than through the adver-

tising columns of The Bulletin.

## A FARMER'S TALK TO FARMERS.

Farmer Talk by Others—The Differences of Opinion—No Evidence of Prevarication, Only Narrowness of View—Extreme and Unreasonable Views Common—Fancy Work Not Always Remunerative—All So Shortsighted and Poorsighted that All Should be Humble and Generously Tolerant.

(Written Specially for The Bulletin.)

I like to hear what other folks think about farming, as well as to "fire off my own mouth" on the fascinating subject. And it's a source of never ending amusement to me to observe how many different things different people think they see when they're all looking at the same identical pumpkin. A Harvard professor has lately been making a really scientific study of the value of evidence. He has demonstrated that as a matter of cold mathematical fact, the best attested evidence, most solemnly sworn to, most skillfully sifted, most honestly given, is liable to a percentage of error which makes it always unsafe to accept without reservation. Certainly the testimony of farmers to farm conditions is as mixed a mess as was ever compounded.

For instance, I had just read in an agricultural paper the other day the unqualified, dogmatic, "I-know-what-I'm-talking-about" assertion that "No business pays as well today as the well kept farm," when in another agricultural paper I bumped up against the equally unqualified, dogmatic, "I-know-what-I'm-talking-about" assertion that the American farmer is today the "hardest worked and most underpaid citizen."

Both these statements came from farmers; both were manifestly intended to be the truth; both were made with equal positiveness and absence of qualifications. And yet both can't possibly be right.

Now suppose I wasn't a farmer; was a mechanic or a clerk or a business man in town, and wanted to find out the facts about life on a farm; after reading a few such contradictions as these, wouldn't I be much the wiser, wouldn't I be much the more cautious, wouldn't I be much the more skeptical of the new congressman from the south, who, after listening for hours to the speeches of partisans who made out that black was white and yellow and sky-blue and other colors, came out in bewilderment: "Mr. Speaker, where are we at?"

It won't do to assume that men who make such diametrically opposite statements are lying. Their very earnestness is proof that they mean what they say. We must take their honest statements at the start off. Nevertheless, they can't both be telling the truth. What is the explanation?

I think it will take two paragraphs to explain 'em. In the first place, they both belong to that unfortunately large class of men who can't see beyond their own noses, or outside the circumference of their own hat-brims. They may both be bright enough in many ways, but they both lack something, mentally. They are not intellectually capable of seeing their own position and ears properly. Perhaps they were born so; perhaps they have, unconsciously, trained themselves into the habit of looking down and not up; within and not outward. They see what they think they see, not what actually is. Sometimes they see what they want to see, not what they ought to see. They don't get out of themselves. What they see, they assume others must see; what they do, others must do; what they suffer, others must endure. They seem to feel that whenever one of them stubs his toe, every farmer from Eastport to Astoria must go lame. Or, whenever one of them has had a good dinner and is feeling comfortable, and everybody else must also be in the time for singing Hallelujahs. Herein, it seems to me, lies the explanation why these people can't see straight.

Then, in the second place, they set forth the results of their wrong vision with dogmatic and offensive intolerance because they are naturally bigoted and one-sided. It is again an intellectual lack rather than an ethical perversion. Indeed, the longer I live and the more I see of men the more certain I am that the more they are due to mental incompetence than to moral obliquity. Of course, every fellow is a very important personage—to himself. He must also be in the time for other people in all the rest of the world, not one of us but is a dinky little toad in a mighty big puddle. And the puddle hasn't dried up just because one toad's back gets out of the water.

Truth generally lives between the extremes. The middle is the golden mean. "Drive slow and keep the middle of the road" is very good advice in other matters beside horsemanship. Here, for instance, is a man who rushes into print with his first year's experience in sheep raising to show how profitable it is for the small farmer. He belongs in the southwest, somewhere, where his sheep live solely on pasture till "well along in January." On the

## LIVE NEWS FROM THREE COUNTIES.

### TOLLAND COUNTY.

#### SOUTH WILLINGTON.

Alfred House in Poor Condition—Mrs. Holman in California—Deer Killer Found by Game Warden Hall—Young Man Fined \$100 and Costs and Sent to Jail.

Alfred House had a turn for the worse Sunday and is in a very bad condition. It was an accident, for several days previous to Sunday that his mind was failing, but later he collapsed utterly and now is physically and mentally helpless. Philip Denman is caring for him, as he is in no condition to be moved to a hospital.

**Safe Arrival.**  
A message was received by Mrs. W. H. Hall on Monday from Mrs. Mrs. E. J. Holman stating that she and her party had arrived at Redlands, Cal., at 1 o'clock of that day.

**Lincoln Orator.**  
Arrangements have been made to have J. B. Connell deliver a lecture in the hall on the evening of Lincoln's birthday, Feb. 12. Details will be given next week.

**DEER LAW VIOLATED.**  
Three Animals Killed by Young Man Named Savor—Clever Work by Special Game Warden Hall.

Upon complaint that parties living on the J. B. Connell place, north of Willington Hill, had been killing deer, Special Game Warden W. H. Hall of this village went on Monday and investigated. Evidence was not lacking to show that several deer had been killed and taken to the home, which is occupied by three brothers by the name of Savor, and their families. Upon being questioned they denied all knowledge of any such offense, but a search of the house revealed one fresh

use of a blue-grass and clover and timothy pasture (cost not stated nor interest and taxes included), and an investment of about \$337 in money, he figures the very satisfactory profit of \$548. He sold his wool at 25 cents a pound and his lambs, which averaged 104 pounds each, at \$7.10 a hundred. He lost only three lambs out of 101. Now, anybody, who has kept sheep for a term of years knows that this is a "fair" sample. He has made a extraordinarily good fortune with his lambs. Not every year can a small farmer expect to save 98 per cent. of his lambs, especially when they come as this man's did "during the stormy days of February and March." Very few farmers in this part of the world can let their sheep live solely on pasture up to the middle of January. Exceedingly few farmers can raise a bunch of 98 lambs which shall weigh an average of 104 pounds each at marketing time. And still fewer farmers can rely upon getting \$7.10 a hundred pounds for them. If this man had suffered ordinary losses in the number of his lambs, had been compelled to take his flock up in November instead of January, had found the lambs average about 20 pounds less in weight, had been able to get but \$5.50 a hundred instead of \$7.10, and had been forced to sell his wool at 13-1/2 cents instead of 25, perhaps his balance sheet would have looked different—especially when he had charged something for labor and something for pasture, both of which items he wholly omits in making up his showing.

And here's another man who tells how to sell apples and make money. "Do the way I did," that's the meaning of his talk, and he says some apples that he was offered \$1.00 a barrel for. He didn't take it; he sorted them all over again, rubbed them shiny with a woolen cloth, made one barrel out of two and sold them for \$1.50 a barrel. And so he made money—if we omit all calculation of the time spent in re-sorting and polishing up, and so on. But I wonder how much pay he got, per diem, out of his extra price, for rubbing every individual apple in his 25 barrels with his woolen cloth?

Some ten years ago I was bitten by this same bug and thought I'd see how much money could be made by packing fancy apples for fancy trade. I took twenty barrels, just as they came from the trees, looked over and packed half the lot in the usual way, getting nine barrels of saleable fruit and one of culls. I took the other half, brought them all to this half, which brought me, all told, \$11.60. The other half, over the other ten barrels, sorted them unsparingly; rejected every imperfect or undersized fruit; packed them extra good, and sold them for \$11.60. I got, per diem, out of his extra price, for rubbing every individual apple in his 25 barrels with his woolen cloth?

Now, here's the point about all this: I can't see to generalize from single happenings. Because, one year, I made money by putting up extra fancy foods. I don't feel any right—or find any excuse, even—for rushing into print with the dogmatic and one-sided statement that the farmer who packs fancy fruit is a fool. Nor has this other chap, whoever he be, any right or excuse, because he made a little something one year by doing that same thing, to rush into print condemning every orchardist who doesn't follow him as an old fogey and not fit for his job.

About the only working lesson either one of us has a right to deduce from his own individual experience is that "you can't most always sometimes tell." But there is a moral suggestion in it which has a real and practical bearing. We're all so short-sighted and so poor-sighted, at the best, all our experience is so unsatisfactory and all our observation is so uncertain and all our learning is so superficial, that simple common sense should lead us to be humble about our own successes, sympathetic with others' losses, and always and everywhere generously tolerant of opinions and practices which we ourselves do not hold with. It's a big world; there are several people in it; and no man ever yet knew just where the other man's shoe pinched.

THE FARMER.

## SOUTH COVENTRY.

Dutch Supper by Ladies' Aid Society—Trolley Track Laid—Fire Caused by Oil Heater—Grange Installation.

The Ladies' Aid society of the Methodist church held a Dutch supper and social in the church vestry on Wednesday evening.

The track of the new trolley line between Willimantic and this place is now laid the entire distance, with the line exception of the bridge. The line terminates at the gate house, Lake Waukegan. The work of ballasting the track has not been completed.

Town Clerk's Record.

The town clerk's record shows 25 births, 6 marriages and 30 deaths in the town of Coventry during the year 1908.

Mrs. Frank Hull of Baltic and son, John D. Hull, of Pittsfield, Mass., have been spending a few days at Mrs. L. A. Mason's this week. Frank E. Hull of Baltic was with them Sunday.

Mrs. Patrick Sheridan, who has been

for a number of years at the Hotel Shook, Sunday night, but is in a comfortable condition at present. Her son, Frederick Sheridan, who has been employed in New York, is with her.

Serious Fire Prevented.

What might have been a serious fire was prevented by timely discovery Saturday afternoon in the home of Joseph McFarland. An oil heater, left burning in an upstairs sleeping room, had become overheated and other articles and a blaze was well under way before it was discovered by James Williamson, a member of the family, who smelled smoke and located the fire. He had presence of mind to throw the blazing stove from a window. The fire in the room was soon extinguished, but a considerable amount of damage had been done.

Waukegan Grange Installation.

Waukegan grange held installation of officers on Tuesday evening. George F. Hutchinson of Andover was the installing officer, assisted by Miss Ella Thelin. The following officers were installed: Master, E. L. Hutchinson; overseer, F. A. Warren; lecturer, Miss Mary H. Green; steward, William Smith; chaplain, Miss Johanna Thelin; treasurer, Frank A. Spaulding; secretary, Miss Ethel Barber; gatekeeper, Joseph Piper; Marvin P. Colman; Flora; Miss Louise Rosebrook; lady assistant, Mrs. Helen Porter. The meeting was addressed by after 55 members and a fine spread was enjoyed. Miss Evelyn Strong of Andover was the guest of installing officer Hutchinson and Mrs. Hutchinson for the evening.

GILEAD.

Rev. R. J. Kyle's Farewell Sermon—

William H. Miner Falls and Breaks

His Hip.

The Ladies' Aid society met Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. John E. Ellis.

Rev. R. J. Kyle preached his fare-

well sermon last Sunday. He has

accepted a call to South Willington,

and moved his goods to that place this

week. Mr. Kyle has been pastor of

this church for nearly nine years.

William H. Miner, who, after 55

years of slipping on the floor at

his home and fell and broke his hip last

Sunday morning.

Mrs. Ida Jenness Moulton of Bever-

ly, Mass., gave an entertainment at

Gilead hall last Saturday evening. Mrs.

Moulton proved a charming entertain-

er.

Mrs. Clara Hamner of Hartford

spent Sunday with her sister, Mrs. W.

S. Ellis.

At the Grange meeting next week

Friday evening parties will be given

by L. A. Mason and Miss Ella Thelin.

And What I Like and Dislike

About Housekeeping. There will be a

debate on, Resolved, That automobiles

are proving a benefit to the country

towns.

G. A. Miner has sold a tract of tim-

ber to H. A. Spafard.

Many of the farmers in this locality

are taking advantage of the cold snap

to secure their ice. It is from 8 to 11

inches thick and of excellent quality.

E. E. Buell was at Glen Cove, L. I.,

Monday and Tuesday.

EAST WILLINGTON.

Funeral of H. W. Holt held on Mon-

day.

The funeral of H. W. Holt was held

at his residence Monday. Rev. Austin

Wardner took for his text Job 14: 14.

Mr. Holt married Angeline Clark of

Chaplin 55 years ago. She survives him.

He leaves one son, Dr. Wilbur Holt of

Newark, N. Y., a daughter, Alice, wife

of Charles Amidon of East Willington,

and several grandchildren and a brother,

Austin, of Stafford Springs. The

flowers were beautiful. The services

were held at 2 p. m. at the home of

Mr. Holt, secretary and treasurer of

the Congregational church for 25 years.

He was teacher in the East Willington

once flourishing Sunday school, and all

hand and took further questions were

readily answered by him. Mr. Holt

was a relative of Mrs. Henry C. Bowen

of Woodstock, whose husband when

living was owner of Roseland Park.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, R. I.

HOPKINTON.

School Committee Meets—Matters in

Probate Court—Wedding—Birthday

Celebration.

The monthly meeting of the school

committee was held at the home of the

clerk, Miss Clara A. Olney, at Hope

Valley, Monday morning, with all the

members present. The principal busi-

ness was the examination of the census

of children of school age in town, as

enumerated by Daniel E. Blake during

the month of January. The total

number of boys between the ages of

5 and 16 was 221, of whom two

hundred have attended school at least

a part of the time during the year

and twenty-one have remained absent.

The total number of girls of school age

is 202, of whom one hundred and

twenty-three have attended school and

only 8 have failed to attend.

Bills were ordered paid to the

amount of \$25.15.

In the Probate Court.

At the monthly session of the probate

court, held at the town hall on

Monday afternoon, the will of John F.

Barber was allowed and ordered re-

corded. William E. Tefft was con-

firmed as executor.

Appointment of a guardian of the

person and estate of Mary Barber

and Arnold B. Barber was continued

to March 1 next.

The petition of George E. Hoxie,

guardian of the person and estate

of his minor children, to sell cer-

tain real estate in the town of Rich-

mond in which his wards have an in-

terest, was granted.

Charles C. Howe of Wyoming, in

this town, was appointed guardian

of the person and estate of his daughter,

Marion H. Howe, a minor over 14

years of age.

Action of Town Council.

The town council appointed Charles

W. Clarke a committee to approve or

disapprove the action of the Worcester

Light &amp; Power Co. in the matter

of locating poles, stringing wires and

cutting trees in preparation to furnish

electric light and power in this town.

A petition of L. A. Brubeck, J. N.

Lewis and H. J. Wheeler and 65 oth-

ers for laying out and establishing a

new highway from Broad street to

Laurel street in the village of Asha-

way, was referred to March 1 next.

Pursuant to an order from the court

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STOPS FOOD FERMENTING AND

RELIEVES DYSPEPSIA.

QUICK RELIEF COMING